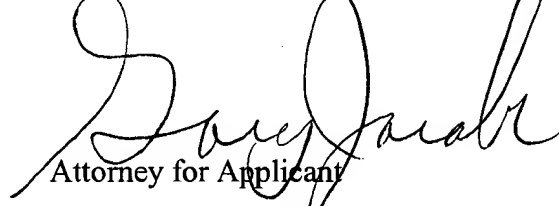


Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



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Marked-up copy of amended claims

17. (Amended) The method recited in Claim 13, wherein said first step comprises the steps of positively refracting the light from the object with one positive lens element and negatively refracting the light from the object with one negative lens element.

24. (Amended) A device for correcting lateral chromatic aberrations in a zoom lens during zooming comprising:

at least one diffractive optical surface disposed on at least one of a first lens unit having a positive optical power, a second lens unit having a negative optical power, a third lens unit having a positive optical power, and a fourth lens unit having a negative optical power disposed in sequence from an object to together constitute a zoom lens that executes zooming by moving all of the first, second, third, and fourth lens units along an optical axis, wherein the diffractive action of said at least one diffractive optical surface corrects lateral chromatic aberration of the zoom lens that occurs during zooming.

34. (Amended) A method of correcting lateral chromatic aberration in a zoom lens having a first lens unit of positive optical power, a second lens unit having a negative optical power, a third lens unit having a positive optical power, and a fourth lens unit having a negative optical power, the zoom lens executing zooming by moving all of the first, second, third, and fourth lens units along an optical axis, said method comprising the step of:

diffracting light from an object that is:

positively refracted with a first lens unit having a positive refractive power with at least one diffractive optical surface on the first lens unit;

positively refracted with a first lens unit having a positive refractive power and then negatively refracted by a second lens unit having a negative [optical] refractive power with at least one diffractive optical surface on the second lens unit;

positively refracted with a first lens unit having a positive refractive power and then negatively refracted by a second lens unit having a negative refractive power and then positively refracted by a third lens unit having a positive refractive power with at least one diffractive optical surface on the third lens unit; or

positively refracted with a first lens unit having a positive refractive power, then negatively refracted by a second lens unit having a negative refractive power, then positively refracted by a third lens unit having a positive refractive power, and then negatively refracted by a fourth lens having a negative refractive power with at least one diffractive optical surface on the fourth lens unit.